



STATE MEDICAID P&T COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, February 19, 2009  
7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.  
Cannon Health Building  
Room 114



## MINUTES

**Committee Members Present:**

**Kort DeLost, R.Ph.**

**Duane Parke, R.Ph.**

**Raymond Ward, M.D.**

**Karen Gunning, PharmD.**

**Koby Taylor, PharmD.**

**Board Members Excused:**

**Matthew Rondina, M.D.**

**Howard Weeks, M.D.**

**David Harris, M.D.**

**Jerome Wohleb, PharmD.**

**Dept. of Health/Div. of Health Care Financing Staff Present:**

Jennifer K. Zeleny, CPhT., MPH

Tim Morley, R.Ph.

**University of Utah Drug Information Center Staff Present:**

Chris Beckwith, PharmD.

**Other Individuals Present:**

Ann Gustafson, GSK

Lori Howard, Bayer

Brett Brewer, EMD Serono

Efrain Alton, Merck

Robb Host, Cephalon

Mike Buhler, R.Ph., Merck

Meeting conducted by: Karen Gunning, Pharm.D., Co-Chairperson.

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1. Minutes for January 2009 were reviewed and approved. Dr. Ward moved to accept the minutes. Kort seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous votes by Kort DeLost, Karen Gunning, Duane Parke, Koby Taylor, and Dr. Ward.
2. DUR Board Update: Tim Morley addressed the Committee. The DUR Board continues to review issues raised in P&T Committee meetings, such as migraine medications and statin/fibrate combinations. Those issues were on the agenda for the February meeting, but were moved to April due to one agenda item taking the entire time of the February meeting.

Tim Morley reviewed a PDL savings report for FY 2009 to date. The report contains 18 classes of drugs that the Committee has discussed.

3. Housekeeping: Duane Parke addressed the Committee. The P&T Committee Rules state that the P&T Committee Chairperson shall be elected yearly, and may serve consecutive terms. Karen Gunning's term has come to an end, and she is stepping down. The Committee was asked to select a new pharmacist co-chair.

Duane Parke nominated Koby Taylor. Dr. Ward seconded the nomination. Koby agreed to consider the nomination for a month.

4. Skeletal Muscle Relaxants: Dr. Christina Beckwith addressed the Committee and presented the document prepared by Oregon Health Sciences University in 2005, and a follow-up document prepared by the University of Utah Drug Information Service on Amirix. A comparative table of skeletal muscle relaxants was provided to the Committee. All agents, with the exception of metaxolone and extended-release cyclobenzaprine, are available as generics.

Karen Gunning asked about the duration of trials for the muscle relaxants indicated for short-term treatment of musculoskeletal problems (not tizanidine, dantrolene, and baclofen). Most of the trials were of very short duration, and less than two weeks.

Tim Morley and Jennifer Zeleny were asked to provide the current DUR limits on muscle relaxants. Muscle relaxants, with the exception of tizanidine, dantrolene, and baclofen, have a cumulative limit of 30 doses in 30 days. Medicaid does very few overrides.

Mary Lynn Vacchiano, PharmD of Accorda therapeutics was scheduled to address the Committee. She was not present.

Duane Parke noted in the usage statistics that there are 77 children under the age of 12 using muscle relaxants, presumably for spasticity. None of the agents are approved for this age group.

The Committee asked if any agents are available in an injectable form. Dantrolene and Baclofen are available in injectable form, but the reviews presented today did not consider them. The Baclofen is for intrathecal use, and Dantrolene would only be used on an in-patient basis for neuroleptic malignant syndrome. Intrathecal Baclofen has had a small number of claims during the last year. Dr. Beckwith recommended that the Committee consider Intrathecal Baclofen as a stand-alone agent, and not consider it with the rest of the class.

Dr. Ward made a motion regarding the oral agents only. Regarding the agents that are used for long-term treatment of spasticity (Dantrolene, Baclofen, and Tizanidine), at least one of these agents should be available with preferred status and Dantrolene should be included due to its indication for neuroleptic malignant syndrome. Duane Parke seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous votes by Kort DeLost, Karen Gunning, Duane Parke, Koby Taylor, and Dr. Ward.

Dr. Ward made a second motion regarding the other skeletal muscle relaxants indicated for

short-term use. The Committee finds no differences in safety or efficacy and recommends that Medicaid make a decision based on cost. Kort DeLost seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous votes by Kort DeLost, Karen Gunning, Duane Parke, Koby Taylor, and Dr. Ward.

5. Skeletal Muscle Relaxant Combinations: Dr. Christina Beckwith addressed the Committee. The University of Utah Drug Information Service prepared a review of the three agents that are currently available, and was summarized for the Committee.

Duane Parke stated that the number of claims for these agents was only approximately 100 last year.

Dr. Ward moved that, due to the lack of evidence, The Committee does not find reason to include them on the PDL. Duane seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous votes by Kort DeLost, Karen Gunning, Duane Parke, Koby Taylor, and Dr. Ward.

6. Schedule of Drug Classes: Duane Parke addressed the Committee regarding scheduling. Senate Bill 87, which would enforce the PDL with a Prior Authorization, passed the Senate almost unanimously, but still needs to get through the House. It does not appear that any new drug classes will be available for PDL consideration, though.

Medicaid will need to consider how to create PA criteria for classes, and how to handle grandfathering. Additionally, the Medicaid Pharmacy PA desk will remain open on Fridays due to statutory requirements.

Committee members expressed some concern about being able to find PA criteria, and how long it will take to get the PA. Karen Gunning stated that the Medicaid Pharmacy Services website makes this very easy, and that PA criteria are very easy to obtain and understand compared to other third party payors, including Medicare D.

Next month, Duane anticipates that Alzheimers cholinomimetics will be addressed next month. Dr. Beckwith stated that she does not anticipate that the agenda provided today will change prior to May 2009, due to research that is already in progress by the University of Utah Drug Information Service.

Next Meeting Set for Thursday, March 19, 2009  
Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Zeleny